

1962
~~Brown~~
~~Horton~~
~~Edwards~~
~~Ward~~
~~Dorfield~~
~~Watson~~
~~McWilliams~~
for
Hus-
ing
Mill

C. G. Logan

Red

Early in July 1933 at a conference of the Assistant Secretary, Dr. Tugwell, Mr. Jump, Budget Director, and Dr. Sheets, Chief of the Division of Animal Husbandry, it was decided to concentrate additional departmental activities at Beltsville, Maryland, into one large federal agricultural research center. During the remainder of 1933 and 1934 \$3,377,365 was allotted from P.W.A. and C.W.A. funds to expand the activities at the Research Center. Table No. 2 shows the major appropriations which were made over a period of years for the development of the Center. Dr. E. W. Sheets, Chief of the Animal Husbandry Division of Animal Industry, was the first coordinator of activities at the Research Center. On August 28, 1934, the Secretary of Agriculture, Henry A. Wallace, issued Memorandum No. 648 establishing the Beltsville Research Center. This memorandum is as follows:

Bureau of Animal Industry
Bureau of Dairy Industry
Bureau of Plant Industry
Bureau of Agricultural Engineering
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine
Bureau of Chemistry and Soils
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Bureau of Biological Survey
Food and Drug Administration
Forest Service

"In addition, other Departments of the Government are now conducting activities on the land of the Department of Agriculture at Beltsville.

"(2) Coincident with the relocation, in the near future, of the activities conducted at the Arlington Experimental Farm and to provide for the most beneficial use, in the interest of agriculture as a whole, of the land, buildings and other facilities of the Department in the Beltsville area, including the Bell, Maryland, station, all of these properties shall constitute, and are administratively designated as, the 'Beltsville Research Center of the Department of Agriculture.'

"(3) In order to provide for the continued development and coordination of the Research Center on a comprehensive and orderly plan, the custody, control, and assignment for use of all lands, buildings, and fixed and such other equipment as may later be determined, and the general administration and operation of the Center is hereby vested in a Director, to be designated by the Secretary of Agriculture. The Director will be the representative of the Secretary and of the chief of each bureau conducting activities at the Center.

"(4) Under this authority, in order to provide for maximum service and economy of operation to the Center as a whole, the Director will develop and establish, within the limitations of existing law and regulations, such policies and general operating methods as may be desirable to carry out the purposes set forth herein, including the pooling, insofar as may be consistent with the requirements of the specific projects conducted at the Center, of equipment and other resources and service functions, such as power, light, water, library, construction work, farm labor, supplies, disposition of surplus products, etc. All construction work at the Center, including related activities conducted under emergency funds, such as P.W.A., C.C.C., F.E.R.A., and similar projects, will be under the supervision and control of the Director and all records pertaining to prior construction operations at the Center will be transferred to, or at his discretion, made available to the Director.

"(5) In order to organize and establish the administrative activity provided for in the foregoing, Dr. E. N. Bressman is designated, temporarily, as Director of the Beltsville Research Center.

"(6) All previous Departmental memoranda relating to the direction and coordination of activities in the Beltsville area are hereby revoked."

In addition to the P.W.A. and C.W.A. allotments, a Civilian Conservation Corps camp was established in October of 1933. Subsequently three more camps were allotted to the Beltsville Research Center and this labor force completed a large amount of valuable work between 1933 and 1942 when the camps were disbanded. These camps were used in clearing, draining of land, building fences and roads, and construction of many small sheds and other structures. The Log Lodge which is now used as a cafeteria was erected by C.C.C. labor and was

used by the camps as a recreation building until it was converted into a cafeteria on November 4, 1940. Mr. E. C. Butterfield succeeded Dr. Bressman as Director of the Beltsville Research Center in 1934. In 1935 Harry A. Nelson succeeded Mr. Butterfield and Mr. Earl Sanford succeeded Mr. Nelson in 1937. Mr. Sanford was succeeded by Mr. C. A. Logan in 1940.

① The Agricultural Research Center has had several names having started out as the Beltsville Research Center which was changed by Secretary's Memorandum No. 681, dated December 10, 1935, to the National Agricultural Research Center. This name was changed again by Secretary's Memorandum No. 681, Supplement 1, on December 9, 1939, from the National Agricultural Research Center back to the Beltsville Research Center. In the Appropriation Act of 1946 the name was changed from the Beltsville Research Center to the Agricultural Research Center. Secretary's Memorandum No. 809, dated February 27, 1939, transferred to the Office of Plant and Operations the responsibility for departmental services and management function of the Beltsville Research Center and supervision of the Office of General Superintendent. Executive Order 9069 dated February 23, 1942, established the Agricultural Research Administration and also transferred to the Research Administrator responsibility for the Office of Operations of the Agricultural Research Center. ②

Table No. 3 shows the various Secretary's memoranda relative to the Agricultural Research Center. Table No. 4 lists Administrative Memoranda issued by the Agricultural Research Service and pertaining to the Agricultural Research Center.

An agreement with the National Youth Administration was executed on October 15, 1940, to establish a youth training project at the Research Center. This training center was opened in 1941 and closed November 30, 1942. The Research Center assumed custody of the buildings on January 2, 1943.

Due to the necessity for increasing our national defense, the War Department was granted a permit on February 14, 1941, to establish a National Defense Airport at the Agricultural Research Center. After constructing two runways and part of the third the project was stopped in October 1942. The permit was terminated on February 14, 1946. The extensive grading operations during construction of the airport created a serious erosion problem which has not been entirely corrected to date. Although considerable work was done by the Army Engineers, much labor and materials has been expended by the Department of Agriculture in repairing the remaining damage and in controlling erosion in the airport area.

The major growth in the Activities at the Center were at the completion of the building programs provided by the large allotments shown in Table No. 2. The extent of research activity has remained relatively constant during the past ten years. However, the work projects have varied considerably with the change in economic and world conditions. The present employment is approximately 2,750 people of which about half are scientists or technicians.

The following Divisions of the Agricultural Research Service and other Agencies of Government are presently engaged in some phase of their activity at the Agricultural Research Center:

- Animal Disease and Parasite Research Division
- Agricultural Engineering Research Division
- Animal Husbandry Research Division

- Crops Research Division
- Entomology Research Division
- Soil and Water Conservation Research Division
- Nutrition and Consumer-Use Research Division
- Animal Disease Eradication Division
- Meat Inspection Division
- Pesticides Regulation Division
- Plant Pest Control Division
- Eastern Utilization Research and Development Division
- Forest Service
- Agricultural Marketing Service
- Soil Conservation Service
- Food and Drug Administration of the Department of Health,
Education, and Welfare
- Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Fish and Wildlife
Service of the Department of Interior
- Goddard Space Flight Center of the National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
- Office of Naval Research
- Bureau of Standards of the Department of Commerce
- Geological Survey of the Department of Interior

The Congress in 1950 enacted Public Law 759 which established a Working Capital Fund of \$300,000 to be available without fiscal year limitation, for expenses necessary for furnishing facilities and services by the Agricultural Research Center to Government Agencies. The fund to be reimbursed from applicable appropriations or other funds to cover the charges for such facilities and services.

Effective on January 1, 1954, the over-all operation of the Plant Industry Station was merged with the Agricultural Research Center Operations. This was the first year that ARC did not have a regular appropriation. The appropriation was divided up among the Agencies who were being served by the Office of Operations.

A summary of the work of most of these Divisions and Agencies is contained in Agriculture Information Bulletin No. 189. Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of Interior described in Bulletin No. 189 was formerly the Bureau of Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture. This work with approximately 3,100 acres of land was transferred to the Department of Interior in 1941.

Table No. 1

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

RECORD OF LAND TRANSACTIONS

Action	Date	Acreage		Cost	
		Cr.	Dr.	Cr.	Dr.
BAI - Hall Tract	1910	475.00			25,000.00
BDI - Walker	1925	128.90			12,900.00
BAI - Collier	1927	9.93			323.47
BAI - Crain	1927	1,058.50			34,676.53
BDI - Gatti	1930	80.02			11,000.00
BDI - Smith	1932	114.00			17,000.00
BAI - Eaton, Gatti, Hayden	1933	1,811.21			64,725.74
BPI - Miller, Selman	1933	424.50			80,769.75
BAI - 5 tracts	1934	854.34			40,661.24
BDI - Muller-Fitzgerald	1934	18.74			6,025.00
BAI - Gross, Pullman	1935	131.19			6,388.55
FSA - Trans. by Sec. Memo 714	1937	7,164.29	211.59	6,347.70	446,107.65
FSA - Trans. by Sec. Memo 781	1938	402.09			88,828.81
ARC - Purch.	1938	10.00			11,925.00
Pat. Res. Ref. to Dept. of Int.	1940		2,238.00	93,268.00	
BPI - Part of Frey	1940	28.43			10,198.23
BPI - 8 Tracts	1941	550.84			163,881.05
FSA - Trans. by Sec. Memo 904	1941	818.85			64,976.18
FSA - Trans. by Sec. Memo 714-1	1941	108.40	49.75	3,134.25	6,823.20
BPI - Walker	1942	26.93			5,522.46
BPI - McCoy	1943	.14			256.37
FFMC - Sampson, Hense	1947	128.00			9,750.00
ARC - Part of Russell to Queens Chapel Methodist Church	1948		2.00	100.00	
ARC - 8 parcels north of Muirkirk: Rd. to Dept. Interior	1951		391.69	34,975.00	
ARC - 7 parcels south of Glenn Dale Rd. to Gen. Services Adm. (surplus)	1952		158.04	13,965.46	
ARC - Edgewood Rd., R.O.W. to Prince George's County	1952		1.91	1.00	
ARC - To Perkins Chapel Methodist Church	1958		5.5	2,750.00	
ARC - To NASA	1960		547.77	34,510.00	
ARC - To HEW (Pending)	1962		209.50	18,000.00	
				Est.:	
BALANCE		10,533.50	3,815.75		900,687.82

September 4, 1962

MAJOR APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER

1933 and 1934	P.W.A.	\$ 3,000,825.00
1933 and 1934	C.W.A.	376,540.00
1938	P.W.A.	3,538,573.00
1938	W.P.A.	1,303,365.00
1941	Approp.	<u>2,721,500.00</u>
	Total	\$10,940,803.00

SECRETARIAL MEMORANDA
RELATIVE TO THE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
648	<u>8/28/34</u>	Establishes Beltsville Research Center and designates Dr. Bressman as Director
650	10/6/34	Designates E. C. Butterfield as Director
659	2/4/35	Outlines functions and responsibilities of Director
660	2/9/35	Relates to allotments of Public Works Funds
677	8/14/35	Designates H. A. Nelson as Director of Beltsville Research Center
681	12/10/35	Changed name to National Agricultural Research Center
681 Sup. 1	12/9/39	Changed name from National Agricultural Research Center to U.S.D.A. Beltsville Research Center
681 Sup. 2	<u>7/11/45</u>	Changed name to Agricultural Research Center
714	3/30/37	Land Assignments
714 Sup. 1	10/21/41	Transfer of land between Beltsville Research Center and Farm Security Administration
809	2/27/39	Placing Beltsville Research Center under supervision of Office of Plant and Operations
809 Sup. 1	4/9/40	Defines responsibilities of Division of Management and Operations
809 Sup. 2	12/26/40	Delegates authority to Chief of Division of Management and Operations to transfer surplus products, material equipment and other property from one Bureau to another at Beltsville Research Center
904	5/12/41	Transfer of land
960	<u>12/13/41</u>	Placing Beltsville Research Center under supervision of Agricultural Research Administration

Table No. 3 -
Continued

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
920 Rev.	4/30/43	Relates to Board of Survey at BRC
986	2/25/42	Transferred Division of Management and Operations to Agricultural Research Administration

